

# Changing the Aerospace Design Paradigm with FUN3D

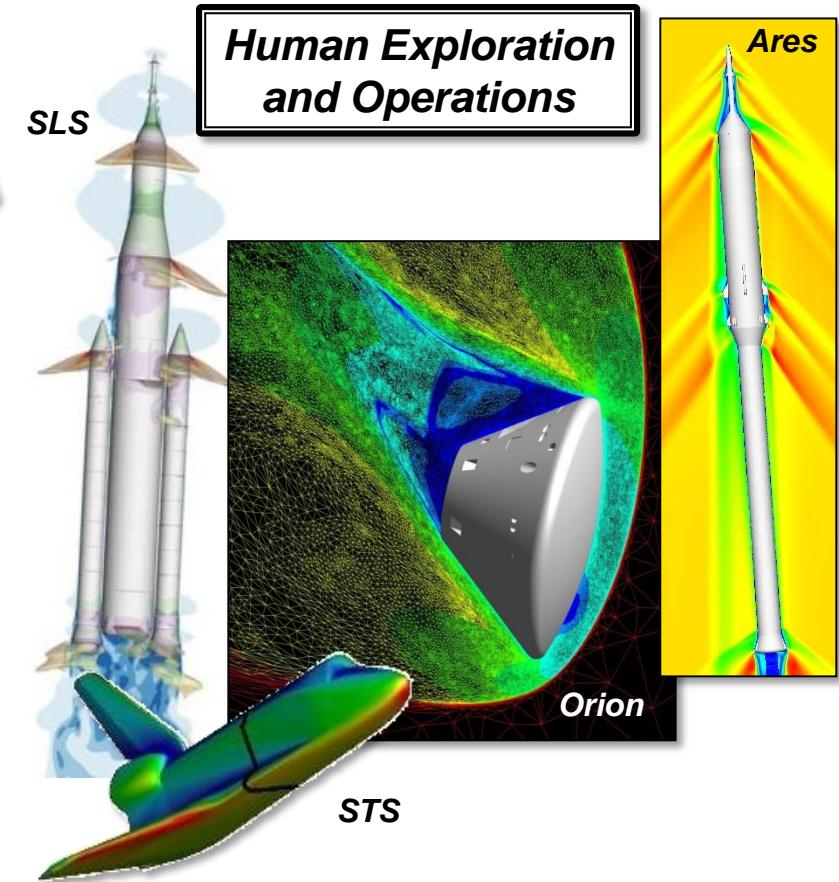
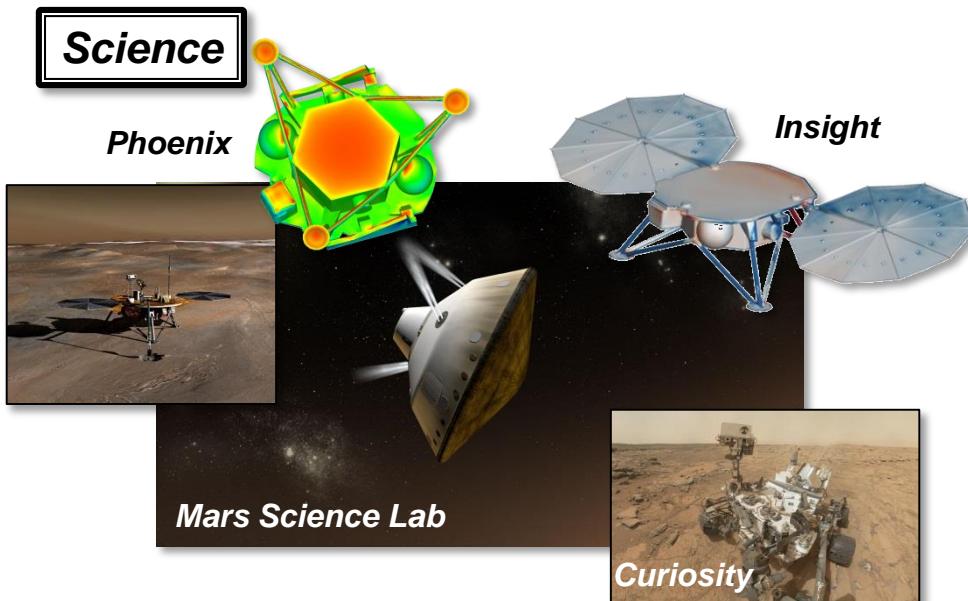


*Fully Unstructured Navier-Stokes*

Eric J. Nielsen  
and the  
FUN3D Development Team  
NASA Langley Research Center

*<http://fun3d.larc.nasa.gov>*

*FUN3D supplies critical physics-based aerodynamics for a broad range of applications across all Mission Directorates*



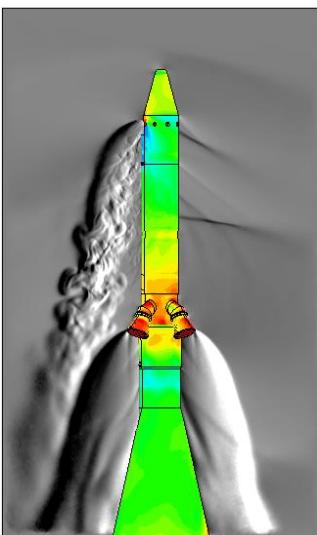
*"The FUN3D team has developed a capability that continues to find new and unique applications of significant importance to the agency."*

*- Dave Schuster*

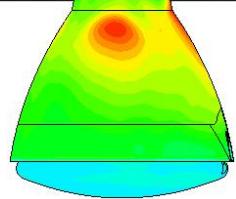
*NASA Technical Fellow for Aerosciences  
NASA Engineering and Safety Center*

## Space Technology

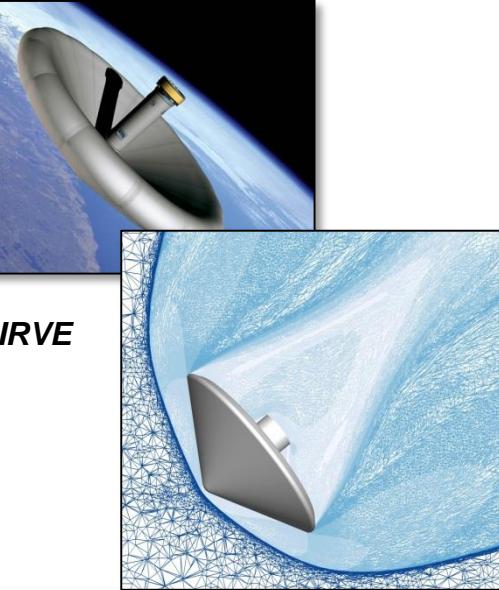
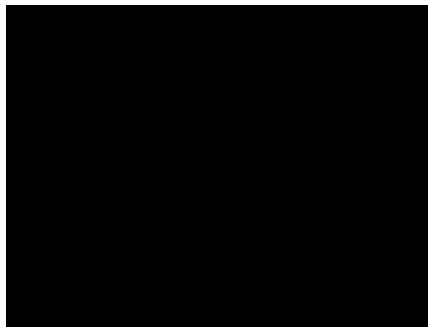
### Launch Abort



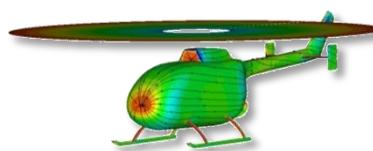
*IRVE*



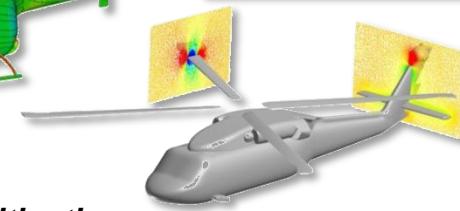
### Supersonic Retropropulsion



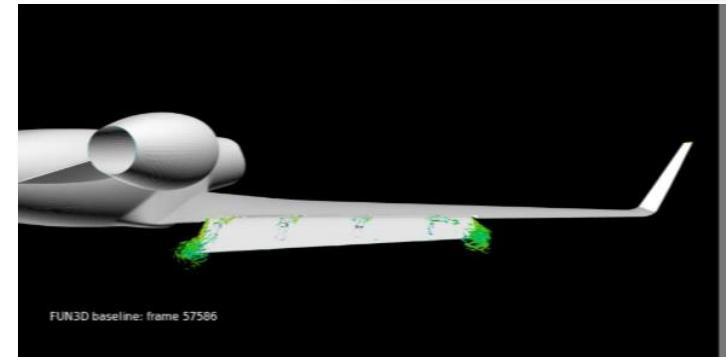
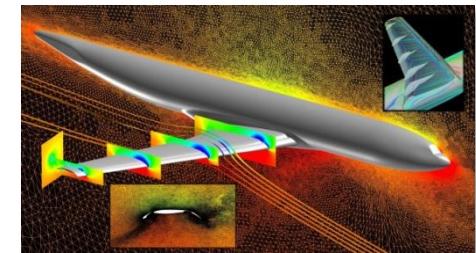
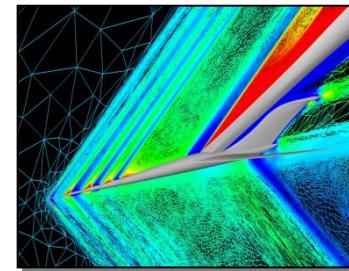
## Aeronautics Research



*Rotorcraft*



*Airframe Noise*



*Due to increased demand from NASA scientists and engineers, FUN3D simulations now account for the single largest block of supercomputing cycles at the Agency: 12% of NAS, or approximately 200 million hours per year*

# Across the Aerospace Industry



First private company to achieve orbit  
and dock with the International Space Station  
***Primary aerodynamics tool: FUN3D***

- FUN3D used for extensive analysis of Falcon 1 and Falcon 9 rockets, Dragon spacecraft
- Team consults frequently and provides new features and capabilities as requested

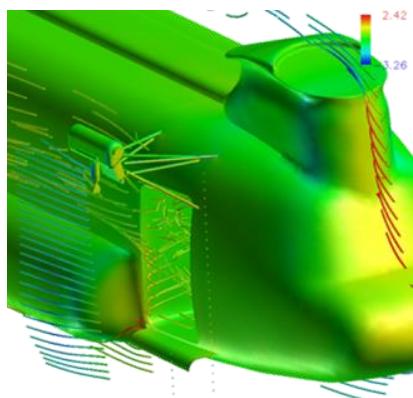
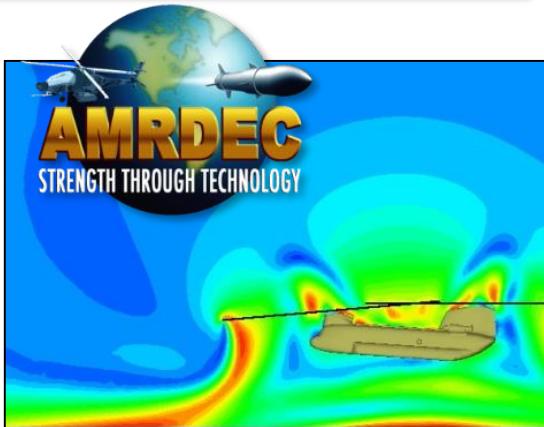
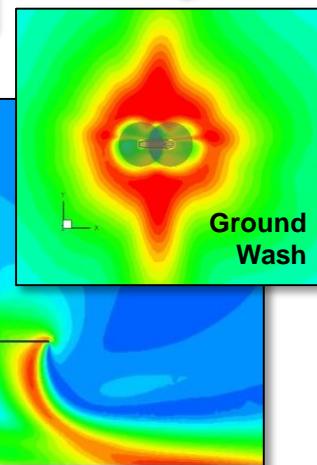
*"The FUN3D software suite and development team have enabled SpaceX to rapidly design, build, and successfully fly a new generation of rockets and spacecraft."*

- Justin Richeson

Manager, SpaceX Aerodynamics

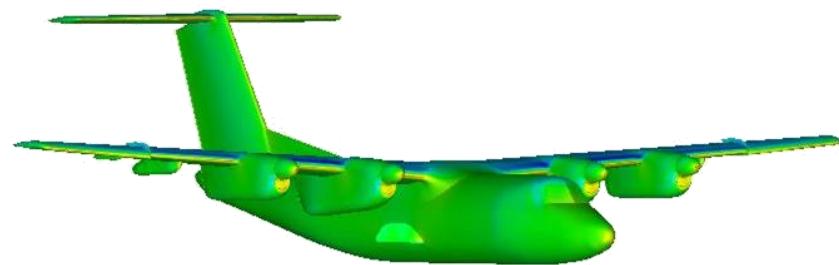


# At the Department of Defense



## AMRDEC at Redstone Arsenal

- **Troop safety:** airworthiness qualification
- **Dramatic cost savings:** fewer tunnel & flight tests
- Fast-paced environment analyzing & certifying vehicle and weapons systems for operational deployment
- Intense demand for timely results on massive computing systems
- Decade of use in direct support of the US warfighter

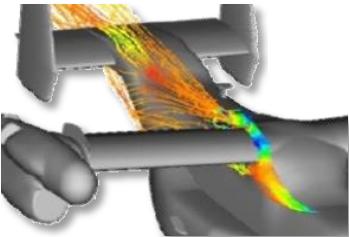


## Air Force Research Labs at WPAFB

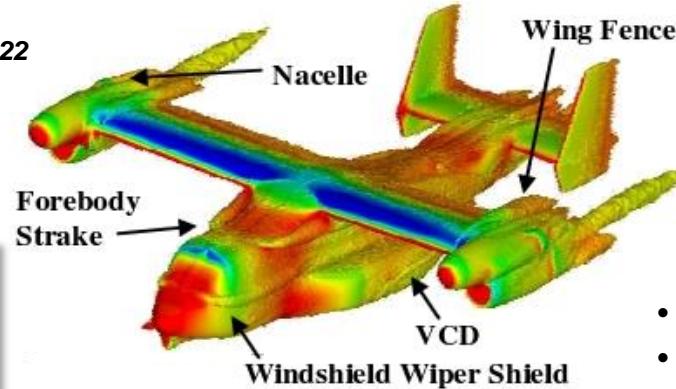
- Funded on-site training workshop (20 students)



# *At the Department of Defense*



V-22



## NAVAIR at Patuxent River

- Hosted on-site training workshop
- Hired two recent Georgia Tech PhD graduates
  - FUN3D development for theses



- Gordon Bell Prize awarded to FUN3D / ANL / LLNL team
  - Most prestigious award in High Performance Computing community



- Joint collaboration improving fuel efficiency for 18-wheeler trucks
- Covered by print and TV news
- Simulations performed on Jaguar
  - The world's most powerful supercomputer at the time

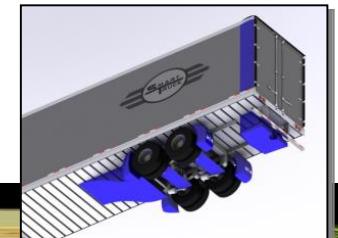
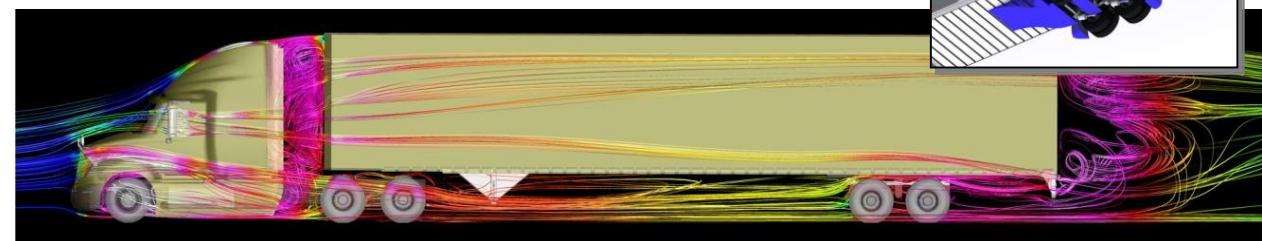


- Reduced wind turbine noise while maintaining performance

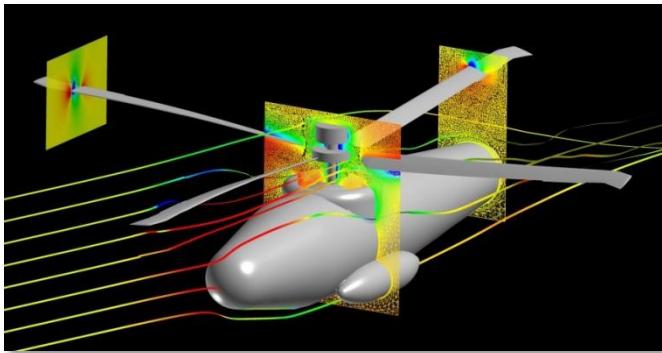


- Used FUN3D on world's largest supercomputer to perform the most advanced truck simulations ever attempted
- Developed add-on kits that improve fuel mileage by as much as 11%
- Spin-off company has sold over 40,000 units

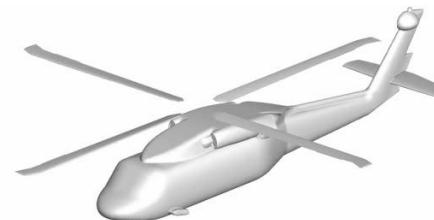
*“FUN3D is a national asset.”*  
- Mike Henderson,  
BMI Founder



- Over 50 students have interned with the team or conducted thesis work using FUN3D: 20 MS and PhD theses generated
- Graduates with hands-on FUN3D experience are highly sought after

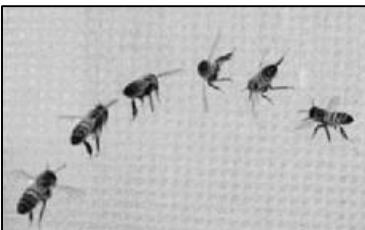
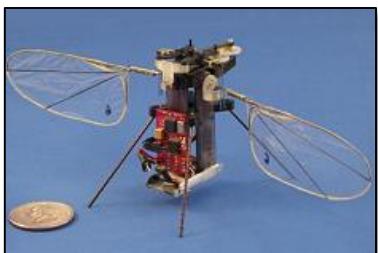


Georgia Tech has played a significant role in modeling vehicles with moving parts, such as helicopters

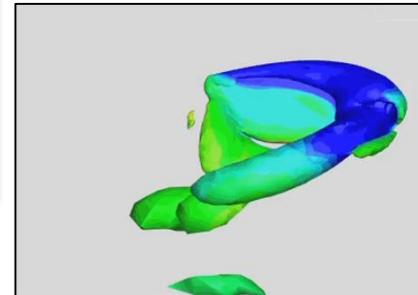


*“FUN3D is a vital national resource...the investment that NASA has made has generated at least a hundredfold in return on investment...”*

- Dr. Marilyn Smith, Georgia Tech



North Carolina A&T has used FUN3D to optimize biologically-inspired micro-air vehicles for the US Army



- Support
  - Multiple E-mail lists
    - Developer support (private list - CS monitor around clock)
    - Users
    - News
- Documentation
  - User manual: NASA/TM-2014-218179
  - Website
    - Up-to-date
    - Real-time development status
- Training
  - Multiple requests for on-site workshops
  - Streaming of previously-recorded workshops from website
  - Tutorials available on website
- Progressive software development practices
  - Automated regression testing ensures quality
  - Practices adopted by other organizations



*“...the FUN3D team’s responsiveness has made working on different coasts and time zones a non-issue, and their on-site training session was a great educational event.”*

*- Justin Richeson, SpaceX*

*“It is my belief that the FUN3D project should be held up as an example of software development at NASA done well.”*  
- Kevin Fogelman, AVID LLC

*“A software product is only as good as the team behind it. Here, the FUN3D team is incomparable to any other development team that I have ever worked with in my thirty-five years of computational experience.”*  
- Dr. Marilyn Smith, Georgia Tech

# The Navier-Stokes Equations

$$\frac{\partial(\mathbf{Q}V)}{\partial t} + \oint_{\partial V} (\mathbf{F}^* - \mathbf{F}_v) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} dS = 0$$

$$p = (\gamma - 1)(E - \rho \frac{(u^2 + v^2 + w^2)}{2})$$

$$\mathbf{F}^* = \begin{bmatrix} \rho(u - W_x) \\ \rho u(u - W_x) + p \\ \rho v(u - W_x) \\ \rho w(u - W_x) \\ (E + p)(u - W_x) + W_x p \end{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \begin{bmatrix} \rho(v - W_y) \\ \rho u(v - W_y) \\ \rho v(v - W_y) + p \\ \rho w(v - W_y) \\ (E + p)(v - W_y) + W_y p \end{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \begin{bmatrix} \rho(w - W_z) \\ \rho u(w - W_z) \\ \rho v(w - W_z) \\ \rho w(w - W_z) + p \\ (E + p)(w - W_z) + W_z p \end{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{k}}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \tau_{xx} \\ \tau_{yx} \\ \tau_{zx} \\ u\tau_{xx} + v\tau_{xy} + w\tau_{xz} - q_x \end{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \tau_{xy} \\ \tau_{yy} \\ \tau_{zy} \\ u\tau_{yx} + v\tau_{yy} + w\tau_{yz} - q_y \end{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \tau_{xz} \\ \tau_{yz} \\ \tau_{zz} \\ u\tau_{zx} + v\tau_{zy} + w\tau_{zz} - q_z \end{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{k}}$$

$$\tau_{xx} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{M_\infty}{Re} (\mu + \mu_t) \left( 2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right)$$

$$\tau_{yy} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{M_\infty}{Re} (\mu + \mu_t) \left( 2 \frac{\partial y}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right)$$

$$\tau_{zz} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{M_\infty}{Re} (\mu + \mu_t) \left( 2 \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$\tau_{xy} = \tau_{yx} = (\mu + \mu_t) \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right)$$

$$\tau_{xz} = \tau_{zx} = (\mu + \mu_t) \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right)$$

$$\tau_{yz} = \tau_{zy} = (\mu + \mu_t) \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$q_x = - \frac{M_\infty}{Re(\gamma - 1)} \left( \frac{\mu}{Pr} + \frac{\mu_t}{Pr_t} \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial x}$$

$$q_y = - \frac{M_\infty}{Re(\gamma - 1)} \left( \frac{\mu}{Pr} + \frac{\mu_t}{Pr_t} \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}$$

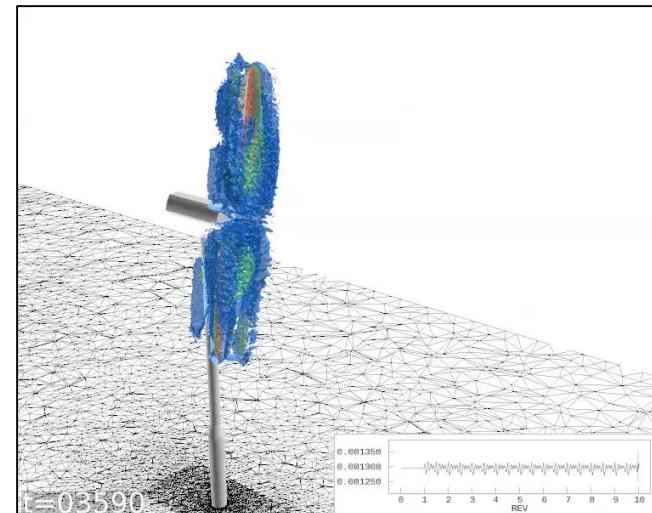
$$q_z = - \frac{M_\infty}{Re(\gamma - 1)} \left( \frac{\mu}{Pr} + \frac{\mu_t}{Pr_t} \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial z}$$

- Traditional CFD tools solve for the flow field and associated output parameters, such as drag on an aircraft
- Software to do this is typically ~50,000 lines of code

- The Navier-Stokes equations are solved forward in time to give information about the flow field (lift, drag)
- For design, we need to know how the flow field is sensitive to a change in design parameters (chord, sweep)
- Perturbing each parameter, computing the flow field, and differencing the output to obtain sensitivity is intractable for multiple variables



- An auxiliary set of adjoint equations are obtained by differentiating the governing equations
- Adjoint equations are solved backward in time to determine which parameters impact a given output and how
- This provides efficient sensitivity analysis for all inputs simultaneously



$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{C}_s^n \circ \left[ a \frac{\mathbf{Q}_s^n - \mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-1}}{\Delta t} \circ \mathbf{V}_s^n + c \frac{\mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-2} - \mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-1}}{\Delta t} \circ \mathbf{V}_s^n \mathbf{V}^{n-2} \right. \\ \left. + d \frac{\mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-3} - \mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-1}}{\Delta t} \circ \mathbf{V}_s^n \mathbf{V}^{n-3} \right] \\ + \mathbf{R}^n + ((\mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-1}) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^n + \bar{\beta} \mathbf{C}_s^n) \circ \mathbf{R}_{\text{GCL}}^n = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (A1)$$

Proceeding as before, the Lagrangian can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{A}_s) = f \Delta t + \sum_{n=1}^N [\Lambda_s^n]^T \mathbf{G}^n \Delta t \\ + \sum_{n=1}^N \left\{ [\mathbf{C}_s^n \circ \Lambda_s^n]^T \left[ a \frac{\mathbf{Q}_s^n - \mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-1}}{\Delta t} \circ \mathbf{V}_s^n \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + c \frac{\mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-2} - \mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-1}}{\Delta t} \circ (\mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{V}^{n-2}) \right] \right. \\ \left. + d \frac{\mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-3} - \mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-1}}{\Delta t} \circ (\mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{V}^{n-3}) \right] \\ + [\Lambda_s^n]^T \mathbf{R}^n + ((\mathbf{I}_s^n \mathbf{Q}^{n-1})^T \mathbf{C}_s^n + \bar{\beta} \mathbf{C}_s^n)^T \mathbf{R}_{\text{GCL}}^n \\ + [\Lambda_s^n]^T [\Lambda^n \mathbf{Q}^n + [\Lambda_s^n]^T [\mathbf{P}^n \mathbf{Q}^n]] \Delta t \\ + (f^0 + [\Lambda_s^n]^T \mathbf{G}^0 + [\Lambda^n]^T \mathbf{R}^0) \Delta t \end{aligned} \quad (A2)$$

On time levels 1 and 2, the time derivatives are assumed to be discretized with the BDF1 and BDF2 schemes, respectively. Taking into account the dependencies on data at time levels  $n-2$  and  $n-3$ , the adjoint equations are obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} S: \quad & \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}_s^n \circ \mathbf{C}_s^n \circ \Lambda_s^n}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_s^n} \circ \Lambda_s^n + [\mathbf{A}_s^n]^T \Lambda_s^n + [\mathbf{P}_s^n]^T \Lambda_h^n = - \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_s^n} \right]^T \\ & - \mathbf{I}_s^n \left\{ [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+1}]^T \left[ \left( -\frac{a}{\Delta t} \mathbf{V}_s^{n+1} - \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-1} - \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-2} \right. \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. \left. + \mathbf{R}_{\text{GCL}}^{n+1} \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+1} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+1} \right] + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+2}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+2} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+2} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+2} \right] \right. \\ & \left. + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+3}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+3} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+3} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+3} \right] \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (A3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} F: \quad & \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^n}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_s^n} \right]^T \Lambda_s^n + [\Lambda_s^n]^T \Lambda_f^n + [\mathbf{P}_s^n]^T \Lambda_h^n = - \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_s^n} \right]^T \\ & - \mathbf{I}_s^n \left\{ [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+1}]^T \left[ \left( -\frac{a}{\Delta t} \mathbf{V}_s^{n+1} - \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-1} - \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-2} \right. \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. \left. + \mathbf{R}_{\text{GCL}}^{n+1} \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+1} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+1} \right] + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+2}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+2} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+2} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+2} \right] \right. \\ & \left. + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+3}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+3} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+3} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+3} \right] \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (A4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H: \quad & \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^n}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_h^n} \right]^T \Lambda_s^n + [\Lambda_h^n]^T \Lambda_f^n + [\mathbf{P}_h^n]^T \Lambda_h^n = - \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_h^n} \right]^T \\ & - \mathbf{I}_h^n \left\{ [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+1}]^T \left[ \left( -\frac{a}{\Delta t} \mathbf{V}_s^{n+1} - \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-1} - \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-2} \right. \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. \left. + \mathbf{R}_{\text{GCL}}^{n+1} \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+1} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+1} \right] + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+2}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+2} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+2} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+2} \right] \right. \\ & \left. + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+3}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+3} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+3} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+3} \right] \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (A5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} S: \quad & \frac{3}{2\Delta t} \mathbf{V}_s^n \circ \mathbf{C}_s^n \circ \Lambda_s^n + \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^n}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_s^n} \right]^T \Lambda_s^n + [\mathbf{A}_s^n]^T \Lambda_f^n + [\mathbf{P}_s^n]^T \Lambda_h^n = \\ & - \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_s^n} \right]^T - \mathbf{I}_s^n \left\{ [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+1}]^T \left[ \left( -\frac{a}{\Delta t} \mathbf{V}_s^{n+1} - \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-1} \right. \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. \left. - \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-2} + \mathbf{R}_{\text{GCL}}^{n+1} \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+1} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+1} \right] \right. \\ & + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+2}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+2} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+2} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+2} \right] \\ & + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+3}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+3} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+3} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+3} \right] \} \\ F: \quad & \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^n}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_s^n} \right]^T \Lambda_s^n + [\Lambda_s^n]^T \Lambda_f^n + [\mathbf{P}_s^n]^T \Lambda_h^n = - \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_s^n} \right]^T \\ & - \mathbf{I}_s^n \left\{ [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+1}]^T \left[ \left( -\frac{a}{\Delta t} \mathbf{V}_s^{n+1} - \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-1} - \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-2} \right. \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. \left. + \mathbf{R}_{\text{GCL}}^{n+1} \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+1} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+1} \right] + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+2}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+2} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+2} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+2} \right] \right. \\ & + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+3}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+3} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+3} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+3} \right] \} \\ H: \quad & \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^n}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_h^n} \right]^T \Lambda_s^n + [\Lambda_h^n]^T \Lambda_f^n + [\mathbf{P}_h^n]^T \Lambda_h^n = - \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_h^n} \right]^T \\ & - \mathbf{I}_h^n \left\{ [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+1}]^T \left[ \left( -\frac{a}{\Delta t} \mathbf{V}_s^{n+1} - \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-1} - \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+1} \mathbf{V}^{n-2} \right. \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. \left. + \mathbf{R}_{\text{GCL}}^{n+1} \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+1} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+1} \right] + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+2}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{c}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+2} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+2} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+2} \right] \right. \\ & + [\mathbf{I}_s^{n+3}]^T \left[ \left( \frac{d}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I}_s^{n+3} \mathbf{V}^n \right) \circ \mathbf{C}_s^{n+3} \circ \Lambda_s^{n+3} \right] \} \end{aligned}$$

Page 1 of 4 of the adjoint equations derived and implemented in:

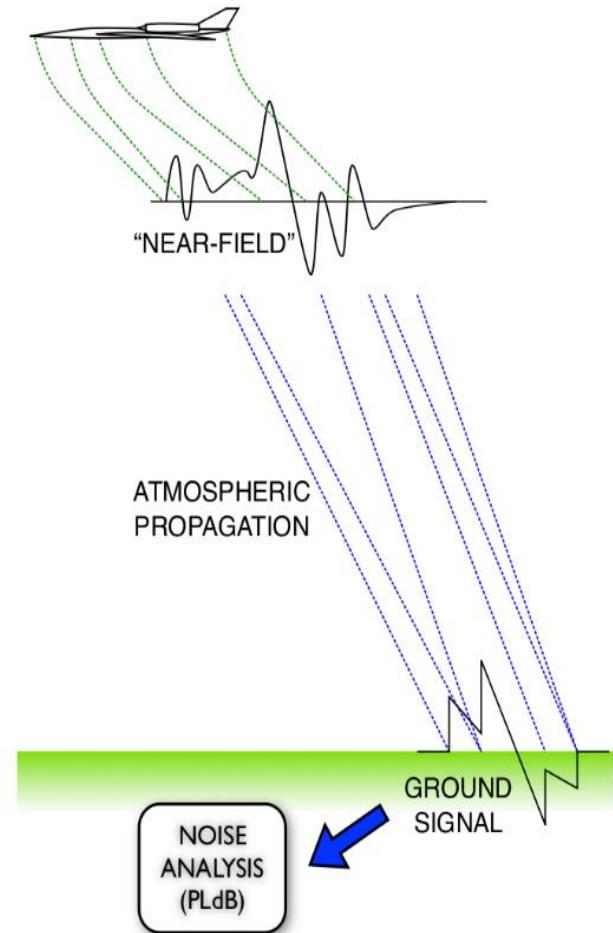
*Nielsen, E.J., and Diskin, B., "Discrete Adjoint-Based Design for Unsteady Turbulent Flows on Dynamic Overset Unstructured Grids," AIAA Journal, Vol. 51, No. 6, June 2013.*

- FUN3D is more than just an analysis tool
  - Provides sensitivity of aerodynamic outputs to thousands of design parameters at the cost of a single simulation using the adjoint approach
- Adjoint developments in FUN3D are recognized as seminal advancements in the field
  - First turbulent flow capability of its kind
  - Sensitivities for large-scale simulations using complex variables
  - Grid sensitivities via adjoint approach
  - Time-varying adjoint solution
- Impact
  - Design with high-end CFD simulations now tractable
  - Numerous organizations around the world cite FUN3D as a model for their own efforts
  - Now able to formally address MDO through collaboration with other disciplines

***Culminating work was recently awarded the 2014 H.J.E. Reid Award,  
Langley's highest honor for research publications***

# Enabling Physics-Based Design

- Real-world problems are governed by more than one discipline
- Formal optimization requires a sensitivity analysis of the coupled system
  - Dependent on individual sensitivities of each discipline
- For example, consider sonic boom mitigation
  - Near-field aerodynamics (CFD)
  - Long-range propagation through the atmosphere
  - Conversion to a noise metric at the ground
- CFD sensitivities represent a major component in the design of aerospace vehicles
- FUN3D provides these sensitivities for steady and time-varying flows
  - *The time-varying capability is **unique** in the world*



*High payoff for formal coupling of numerous disciplines:  
Aerodynamics, Structures, Materials, Acoustics, Optics...*

- FUN3D is an award-winning tool with broad impact and recognized as a national asset
  - Extensive use across all mission directorates
  - Assisted in vehicle design to achieve first commercial docking with ISS
  - Directly supporting the US warfighter
  - Active support, training, and documentation
- Platform for educating the next generation of scientists and engineers
  - Led to numerous graduate theses
- An innovation leader in the field of adjoint methods
  - Adjoint for time-varying turbulent flows unique in the world

